

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

SUBJECT The Kummersdorf Construction
Project and Associated Projects

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE

1. Plans to build a large number of permanent buildings near the Kummersdorf landing ground have been approved by the KEU Luft and the East German Ministerium für Bauwesen (Ministry for Construction). The exact site has not been chosen but it is likely to be some 200 - 300 meters west of the main stockpiling point near the Schumke See. 25X1
2. The site was to have been chosen before the end of June 1959 and blueprints for the entire scheme were to have been prepared by the Projektierungsbüro (Planning Bureau) Potsdam by the end of July 1959. The project is to begin in August and is to be completed by 30 April 1960.
3. Work will start with the construction of five three-story family blocks; each block will accommodate 75 Soviet families. Afterwards a club house, a large communal kitchen, a barrack building for 200 Soviet troops, a storage for vegetables with a storage capacity of 170 tons, swimming pools, baths and showers, and a central heating installation building will be constructed.
4. The Sperenberg reservoir and waterworks are to be considerably enlarged to meet the increased demand. A half-ruined water purification plant near the Heege See is to be rebuilt and extended.
5. The sum of 6 million D.M.(0) has been allocated to cover the cost of the work described above.
6. In 1960, after the site has been developed, a large reception hall (Empfangshalle) may be built. Blueprints for this project have not yet been prepared, since it is still in the discussion stages.
7. The railway line which formerly ended at Schumke Lager, a few hundred yards beyond the stockpiling point for materials, has been extended for exactly 2.1 km. in the direction of the new runway. Trains are already using the extension. Although some supplies of materials are still dumped at the old stockpiling point, most of them are now delivered to the new railhead.

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8. A road 8 meters wide has been built alongside and roughly parallel with the new runway. This road is being paved with cement and until it is completed work will not start on the surfacing of the runway. It is not known whether the road extends as far as the end of the runway.
9. Bau-Union Süd has 150 workmen and 150 prisoners employed on the road and runway. Additional workmen are urgently required; Bau Union Süd has authority to recruit many more if they can find them.
10. The authorized budget for the runway and road is 22 million DM(0). This sum is to pay for the foundation and surface work only (Tiefbau) and does not cover the cost of any above-ground construction.
11. Inside the Schumke Lager and about 300 meters from the Schumke See five single-story stone buildings, each capable of housing 200 men, are under construction. The foundations are at present being cleared and according to the program, the buildings should be 60 percent completed by 30 October 1959 and completely finished by the end of the year. This work has been ordered by KEU Luft and is in the hands of Kreis Bau-Betrieb Zossen, which has its local office in Rangsdorf.
12. The large quantities of PSP (pierced-steel-planking) which have been delivered to the Kummersdorf site are used on the road running alongside the runway. After sections of the road are cemented, the PSP is lifted. Much of the PSP delivered to the site is rusted and broken.
13. Stop signs forbidding access to the area to all foreign military missions have been erected on all roads, lanes and woodland paths leading toward the runway.
14. A Soviet Major Taranez (German phonetic) from Schönefeld airfield has been a frequent visitor to the site since April 1959. His particular interest is the construction of new blocks and the repair of old buildings in the Schumke Lager. He is an administrative officer and seems to be concerned with costing and finance.
15. [redacted] Taranez stated that a number of the Schumke Lager buildings would be repaired this year and the remainder next year. He added that the Soviets would be leaving Schönefeld airfield entirely to the Germans and hoped to move to the new field at Kummersdorf by November 1959. He admitted that November may be premature, since the field is not likely to be ready so soon.
16. The Soviet officer in charge of building and construction matters is Major-General Krasnobajev (German phonetic). His full title is General-Major, Chef der KEU und Stellvertreter des Oberkommandierenden für Bau und Wohnungsfragen für die Sovietische Schutzmacht in der D.D.R. [redacted]
[redacted] In the period of

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April - June 1959 he has visited the Sperenberg- Kummersdorf site three times and each time has left a trail of complaints and recriminations behind.

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